Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Bureau of Air – Permit Section

Fact Sheet:

Planned issuance of a revised Clean Air Act Permit Program (CAAPP) permit for:

Midwest Generation, LLC – Powerton Generating Station 13082 East Manito Road, Pekin CAAPP Permit 05090074

Description of the source:

The Powerton Generating Station is a coal-fired power plant with four utility boilers. All of the boilers have selective non-catalytic reduction, overfire air and rich reagent injection systems for control of emissions of nitrogen oxides (NOx) and dry sorbent injection for control of sulfur dioxide (SO_2). All of the boilers have electrostatic precipitators (ESPs) for particulate matter control and activated carbon is injected prior to the ESPs to control mercury emissions.

Why is the Illinois EPA planning to issue a revised CAAPP permit?

The Illinois EPA is planning to issue a revised CAAPP permit because the current CAAPP permit does not contain certain applicable requirements that apply to this source. Even though those requirements are directly applicable and the source must comply with those requirements, those requirements must also be addressed in the CAAPP permit for the source.

What are the additional rule-based requirements that would be added to the CAAPP permit?

As reflected in the draft of the revised CAAPP permit that has been prepared, the applicable requirements of the following rules would be included:

Mercury and Air Toxics Standards (MATS), 40 CFR 63 Subpart UUUUU

The federal MATS rule addresses emissions of hazardous air pollutants from coal-fired utility boilers, including emissions of mercury and heavy metals,

Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR), 40 CFR Part 98

The federal Cross-State Air Pollution Rule is an emission allowance trading rule that will result in reductions in emissions of SO_2 and NOx from states in the eastern half of the United States (including Illinois) to improve air quality for ozone and fine particulate matter.

Control of Emissions from Large Combustion Sources, 35 IAC Part 225

This Illinois rule addresses emissions of mercury from coal-fired utility boilers.

Would other notable requirements be added to the CAAPP permit?

Best Available Retrofit Technology (BART)

All four coal fired boilers at Powerton are affected units for BART. Powerton complies with emission reduction requirements of BART for emissions of SO_2 and NOx by being part of the Combined Pollutant Standard Group and complying with the alternative emission standards of 35 IAC 225.230(a).

Approval of the Compliance Assurance Monitoring (CAM) Plan for the Coal Boilers
Final approval of the CAM Plan for the particulate matter (PM) emissions of the coal boilers is
proposed. The required measurements of the PM emissions of the boilers have been
completed and confirm that the plan includes an appropriate value of opacity to identify
excursions of the PM emission standard.

New SO₂ Limitations

New SO_2 limitations in 35 IAC 217 that become effective on January 1, 2017 will be added to the permit. The limitations apply to emissions from the coal-fired boilers and emergency diesel generators at Powerton.

New Equipment

Four new sections would be added to the permit to address new facilities and equipment constructed at the plant. The new sections would address dry sorbent injection handling facilities, temporary natural gas-fired auxiliary boiler, portable direct fired space heaters, and a coal additive handling facility. These new sections address applicable requirements from the construction permits for these operations and other applicable requirements for these operations.

Are other changes planned to the permit?

Revisions would also be made to certain provisions of the permit to reflect refinements made in the CAAPP permits for other coal-fired power plants in Illinois and to make other refinements that Midwest Generation has requested.

What happens next?

After the close of the public comment period, the Illinois EPA will review comments submitted pertaining to the planned revisions to the CAAPP permit for the Powerton, including both oral comments made at the hearing and written comments. The Illinois EPA will make changes to the planned revised CAAPP permit as appropriate to respond to those comments. A proposed revised CAAPP permit with any necessary changes would then be submitted to USEPA, Region 5 for its review. A revised CAAPP permit would only be issued once USEPA completes its review of the proposed revised permit.

Contact for more information

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